

# Clark College

## Board of Trustees Work Session Minutes

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

GHL 213 and Zoom

### In Attendance

Paul Speer, Chair

Cristhian Canseco Juarez, Vice Chair

Denise Gideon, Trustee

Jeanne Bennett, Trustee

### Absent

Rekah Strong, Trustee

### Administrators

Dr. Karin Edwards, President

Cath Busha, Dean of Student Engagement, on behalf of Dr. Michele Cruse

Dr. Jim Wilkins-Luton, Interim Vice President of Instruction

Sabra Sand, Vice President of Operations

Vanessa Neal, Interim Vice President of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Brad Avakian, Vice President of Human Resources

Sudha Frederick, Vice President of Instructional Technology

Calen Ouellette, CEO, Clark College Foundation

### Others

Shelley Williams, Assistant Attorney General

Brooke Pillsbury, Senior Executive to the President

Julie Taylor, Executive Assistant

Brandon Johnson, Information Technology

David Mirenta, ASCC Finance Director

#### I. Call to Order/Agenda Review

Chair Speer called the work session to order at 3:30 pm.

#### II. ASCC S&A Budget Review

Presented by David Mirenta, ASCC Finance Director

David Mirenta provided a comprehensive overview of the ASCC budget, including requested funds, approved funds, and available funding. Mirenta also shared an overview of the ASCC fund balance at the beginning of the 2022-23 year, fund balance allocation, and remaining fund balance to close the year.

Mirenta also provided an overview and changes to the S&A budget in the coming year, including increasing travel budgets, an increase to the Athletics budget to support an Athletic Trainer, wage increases for specific Counseling and Health staff, and increased funds dedicated to Women's Athletics.

#### Board of Trustees Feedback and Discussion

Trustee Bennett – Shared gratitude for the presentation and for ASCC's fiscal responsibility. She also acknowledged the effort to invest in student-athletes and to keep up the good work.

Trustee Gideon – Happy to see the wage increase for the nurse practitioner and counselor positions.

Vice Chair Canseco Juarez – Shared gratitude for the presentation.

Chair Speer – Shared that the presentation and work of Mirenta's role is a great opportunity and exercise. Speer shared gratitude and appreciation for ASCC's approach to the budget. Provided follow-up discussion on S&A fee impacts on students and groups.

Chair Speer closed with gratitude for Sarah Gruhler and her effort on behalf of the Trustees.

### III. FY 2023-24 Budget Presentation

Presented by Vice President of Operations Sabra Sand

Sabra Sand shared a final drafted budget, including an overview of funds, impacts, the budget process, and final recommendations. Sand also provided an overview of the guiding principles of the decisions, final percentages across departments, and the acknowledgment that the budget reductions did not result in eliminating currently filled positions.

#### Board of Trustees Feedback and Discussion

Trustee Bennett asked for clarification on where budget earmarks come from. Sabra confirmed SBCTC and that the figure can change.

Chair Speer – shared the value of adding the AVP of Institutional Effectiveness, where prudence and common-sense is essential to the college's success. He shared that the investment in the role addition is very wise and forward-thinking for the College. Speer also shared kudos for the inherited budget deficit and the good work of senior

administration, as well as to the Executive Cabinet for a 5-year lookahead to help spread reserves over time to align with the community, students, and employees, He emphasized that this level of strategic insight is important, and not muscles the college has ever had. Speer closed by sharing that strategic thinking is the hallmark of this leadership team.

Trustee Bennett – Shared gratitude for the work and that this is the fifth year seeing the presentation, and it gets better over time. Bennett feels confident in the work and long-range view. She provided a follow-up discussion regarding the impact of cuts to vacant positions and future needs. Wilkins-Luton provided an overview of the impact and principle behind the cuts, as well as the remaining lines available to support programmatic growth and institutional need. Sabra also shared that the eliminated vacant classified positions had been open for an extensive period, and Dr. Edwards concluded the response by sharing that we also left positions for investment and growth of the college. Additionally, Trustee Bennett asked what trustees can do to help move the needle on funding issues at the state level. The response included that the fully funding COLAs was a huge help, and the work of Trustees contributed to that outcome. Dr. Edwards also shared continued advocacy in circles that Trustees are for continued leverage of Clark College.

Trustees Gideon – Shared her full support of the budget, and not filling vacant positions. Gideon shared that every industry post-COVID is making hard decisions, and the budget shows great stewardship of funds.

Vice Chair Canseco Juarez – Shared his agreement with Trustee Gideon. Canseco Juarez also shared gratitude for the transparent process and for Sabra's leadership, Dr. Edwards, Executive Cabinet, and Budget Committee. He emphasized thoughtfulness and focus on equity and serving students.

Chair Speer – Acknowledged the transparency and inclusiveness of the process. Many have shared their point of view, and that can impact the good work. The College uses a good model with much to be proud of. While people can be critical of the process, when you step back and look at the detail, it's a strong process. Speer shared gratitude for the process.

IV. Public Comment  
No public comment.

V. Adjournment  
Chair Speer adjourned the work session at 4:41 pm.

  
Chair Paul Speer

Brooke Pillsbury, Recorder